

Message Text

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TAGS: CENTO

SUBJECT: FIRST MEETING OF GROUP OF EXPERTS ON CENTO
SECRETARIAT REORGANIZATION

REF: ANKARA AIRGRAM 29, FEBRUARY 25, 1975

1. THE GROUP OF EXPERTS ON CENTO SECRETARIAT REORGANIZATION, COMPOSED OF MEMBER COUNTRIES' DELEGATES ON THE CENTO BUDGET AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE, HELD ITS FIRST MEETING MAY 5. PRINCIPAL RESULT OF THE MEETING WAS A DECISION TO CONSIDER PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENTS OR ADDITIONS FROM THE IRANIAN AND UK DELEGATES TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE REORGANIZATION OF THE CENTO SECRETARIAT CONTAINED IN CENTO DOCUMENT CD/74/D24, NOVEMBER 11, 1974. THE COMBINED RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE TERMS OF REFERENCE WOULD THEN BE SUBMITTED TO THE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS FOR APPROVAL BEFORE THE GROUP OF EXPERTS STARTS ACTUAL WORK.

2. THE TURKISH DELEGATE, WHILE EMPHASIZING THE URGENCY OF GETTING ON WITH THE WORK OF REORGANIZATION, STATED THAT THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT COULD BE EXPECTED TO BRING UP AT THE CENTO MINISTERIAL MEETING THE SITUATION OF THE CENTO AUXILIARY STAFF. (THE TURKISH POSITION PAPER ON THIS SUBJECT WAS FORWARDED TO THE DEPARTMENT AS AN ATTACHMENT TO REF AIRGRAM.) THE TURKISH DELEGATE COULD NOT SAY SPECIFICALLY WHAT FORM THE TURKISH PROPOSAL WOULD TAKE AT THE MINISTERIAL MEETING, BUT COMMENTED THAT THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS

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THAT THE SITUATION OF THE AUXILIARY STAFF HAS PASSED INTO A

CRITICAL STAGE REQUIRING PROMPT ACTION. THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT, SHE SAID, WILL POSSIBLY PROPOSE THAT THE REQUESTS MADE IN ITS POSITION PAPER BE GRANTED SEPARATELY BEFORE THE GROUP OF EXPERTS UNDERTAKES ITS STUDY OF THE REORGANIZATION OF THE ENTIRE SECRETARIAT STRUCTURE, WHICH WILL PROBABLY TAKE SOME MONTHS. THE FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE SECRETARIAT REORGANIZATION COULD THEN BE APPLIED TO THE AUXILIARY STAFF WHEN THEY ARE LATER IMPLEMENTED. (THE INFORMAL OPINION OF THE IRANIAN AND PAKISTANI MEMBERS OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS IS THAT THE AUXILIARY STAFF IS SEEKING TOO MANY PREREQUISITES. THE UK MEMBER FEELS THAT THE AUXILIARY STAFF COULD BE ACCORDED RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES EQUAL TO LOCAL EMPLOYEES OF CENTO EMBASSIES IN ANKARA, BUT THAT GIVING THEM THE SAME STATUS AS LOCAL EMPLOYEES OF NATO HEADQUARTERS IS EXCESSIVE.)

3. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF, IN TIME FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS ON MAY 13, THE DEPARTMENT COULD PROVIDE THE EMBASSY ITS VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT AND AN EXPLANATION OF THE SPECIAL PRIVILEGES ENJOYED BY THE NATO AUXILIARY STAFF.

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